

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Martin et al (7,094,827) is considered to be the closest prior art. It is agreed, upon reconsideration, that the dispersed polymer disclosed by Martin et al is unlike the instantly claimed non-amphiphilic radiation curable oligomers/polymers that are not dispersible in water, as argued by applicant in the remarks filed 10-08-2009. Martin et al teach that the dispersed polymer, i.e. polymer latex, is the product of an aqueous emulsion or a preformed polymer dispersed in water (column 13, lines 34-40). The dispersed polymer disclosed also contains hydrophobic water-insoluble groups and thus is considered to be an amphiphilic radiation curable polymer since an amphiphilic material contains both polar water-soluble groups and hydrophobic water-insoluble groups. Applicant states that the instantly claimed amphiphilic dendritic polymer acts as dispersing agent for the non-amphiphilic radiation curable oligomers or polymers in the instantly claimed compositions.

Haggman et al (7,186,771) is cited as art of interest. Haggman et al '771 disclose compositions comprising an amphiphilic air drying dendritic polymer and a non-amphiphilic air drying alkyd resin.

Oyanagi et al (US 2007/0249750, filed 04-25-2007) is cited as art of interest. Oyanagi et al disclose photocurable ink composition comprising one or more dendritic polymers as the radically polymerizable compound (paragraphs [0045] to [0064]).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /Susan W. Berman/ whose telephone number is 571 272 1067. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on 571 272 1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SB
10/14/2009

/Susan W Berman/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1796